

Similarly, the cited prior art, analyzed individually or in combination, fails to disclose, teach or suggest the claimed filter screen that includes both "one or more first reinforcing filaments extending in the first direction and produced by brazing and engaged with the second plurality of filaments to reinforce the second plurality of filaments in the first direction; and one or more second reinforcing filaments extending in the second direction and produced by brazing and engaged with the first plurality of filaments to reinforce the first plurality of filaments in the second direction, as recited in independent claim 33.

Finally, the cited prior art, analyzed individually or in combination, fails to disclose, teach or suggest the claimed filter screen that includes both "one or more first reinforcing filaments extending in the first direction and produced by welding and engaged with the second plurality of filaments to reinforce the second plurality of filaments in the first direction; and one or more second reinforcing filaments extending in the second direction and produced by welding and engaged with the first plurality of filaments to reinforce the first plurality of filaments in the second direction, as recited in independent claim 36.

Haver merely discloses a process for manufacturing a filter wire cloth with a twill-strip weave that includes warp wires and weft wires forming a plurality of alternating patterns in the direction of a twill line. In accordance with Haver, at least one intermediate weft or warp wire is inserted in the weave in the region of disruption of a twill line course; that intermediate weft or warp wire alters the uniform tying of the weft or warp wires respectively. As a result of the insertion, the fixation of the position of the weft fibers in one pattern is practically achieved whereby a uniform, accurately defined mesh size in each pattern region and in the filter cloth in general is provided.

It must be noted that the whole of Haver's specification discusses inserting one or more weft wires not warp wires. The only passage in Haver that discusses the possibility of inserting warp wires is in the Summary. However, the Summary fails to teach incorporating both warp wires and weft wires. Rather, one of ordinary skill in the art must choose between inserting intermediate warp or weft wires, not both.

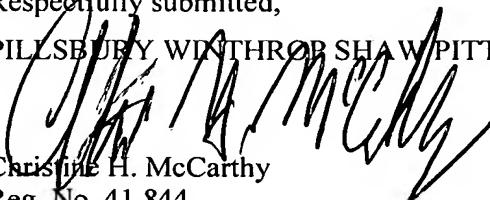
Thus, Haver fails to teach inserting both an intermediate weft wire and an intermediate warp wire in the same pattern region or filter cloth. Accordingly, Haver fails to teach or suggest a filter screen that includes both one or more first reinforcing filaments extending in a first direction and one or more second reinforcing filaments extending in the second direction, as recited in all the rejected claims

Caals fails to remedy the deficiencies of Haver because Caals merely teaches an outdated technology for improving filter cloths for use in filter presses. In accordance with the teachings of Caals, a continuous filter-fabric is weaved wherein warping the yarn is performed to the desired strength and, after each center, a double border. Subsequently, the obtained fabric may be cut in the middle of each alternate double border so that a double filter-cloth with all round strengthened borders and double strengthened border in the middle is provided in such a way that the top of the filter-press frames are overlapped. Thus, the combined teachings of Haver and Caals fail to disclose, teach or suggest the claimed invention.

Similarly, Pall merely teaches a conventional process for producing woven wire mess for use in filter elements, wherein the woven wire sheet material is formed of interwoven metallic filaments and treated by controlled interrelated deforming and sintering operations. Thus, Haver, analyzed with one or both of Caals and Pall, fails to disclose, teach or suggest the claimed invention.

Accordingly, Applicant submits that all pending claims are patentable over the prior art. All rejections having been addressed, Applicants request issuance of a notice of allowance indicating the allowability of all pending claims. If anything further is necessary to place the application in condition for allowance, Applicants request that the Examiner contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below.

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Respectfully submitted,

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